

Waukesha County Nutrition Coalition Minutes 6-28-22

Attendance: Michael Egly - Food Pantry of Waukesha County; Barb Jacob- New Berlin Food Pantry; Jill Herz, Katy Maas, & Jen Whitty- UW-Madison Extension; Katie Riemenschneider- Aging and Disability Resource Center; Shannon Fogle - Eras Senior Network; Jessica Brost- Addiction Resource Council; Lisa Topp- WIC; Rosa Zibell- Waukesha Free Clinic; Irene Schuder & Lashay Ealy- Senior House (Monroe Group)

Emailed update: Elizabeth Sheehan- Community Smiles Dental

Agency Updates:

New Berlin Food Pantry- Barb Jacob: Continuing with outside distribution- staff, volunteers, and clients seem to like it. Had ADRC visit for Seniors Farmers Market voucher distribution, and also HAWS with cat and dog food.

ADRC- Katie Riemenschneider: Have quite a few Senior Farmers Market vouchers to distribute yet. Scheduled to distribute at La Casa Village. People can come to our office and apply for them that day. ADRC will mail if getting to a distribution site is an issue. Call the main ADRC number for more info. Current ADRC meal sites that are open include Brookfield, Menomonee Falls, Mukwonago, Oconomowoc, and Sussex. Timeline for opening the others will be dependent on staffing. Currently recruiting for the Senior Dining Manager position at La Casa in Waukesha. We also have a sub manager position posted on our website:

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/waukeshacounty

UW- Madison Extension FoodWise- Katy Maas & Jill Herz: Working with summer parks & rec programs, which are 8 lesson series at each of the parks. Also teaching summer series at senior meal sites and starting a couple of Strong Bodies strength-training series, which are 8–12-week series that run twice a week. Also doing some youth gardening programs. Adult programs are slower to come back post-covid; always looking for potential adult groups for our Eating Smart & Being Active (ESBA) series. It is a 7-9 session series geared for parents of young children who are eligible for FoodShare. If you work with adults who would benefit from this program, please let us know. We just closed a position posting for a new nutrition educator. Will be doing interviews in the next couple of weeks.

WIC- Lisa Topp: Distributing farmers market checks for WIC participants. Every eligible participant can get checks (usually it had been just 1 per family). Pickup day is Monday, otherwise can mail them out. Increased fruit and vegetable cash value is extended through September, with the hopes that legislation extends it or makes it permanent. Have seen an increased number of people coming in person; the in-person waiver still goes through the end of the year. Have been fielding a lot of questions on formula and the formula shortage. There is a growing list of the formula substitutions that they are able to get through WIC:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wic/formula-substitutions.pdf> The Fit Families program is continuing; have been running a kids gardening class- 38 kids participated. Kids started a tomato or a green pepper plant to grow this summer. Offered virtually and in person.

(Note from Michael Egly on formula: Waukesha Food Pantry keeps some formulas in stock in case you know families who have issues finding formula.)

UW- Madison Extension Health & Well-Being- Jen Whitty: Providing health and nutrition education for those with disabilities through ARCh- will be providing lessons to youth and adults at their summer camp. Partnering with St Coletta's day services program with the goal of working with their residential services for hands-on cooking. Providing some resident and staff education. Offering Strong Bodies strength-training programming. FoodWise focuses on teaching Strong Bodies to those eligible for FoodShare, and Jen can teach a more general

audience - all are welcome. There is a small fee but that can be waived if that is an issue. Looking to expand Strong Bodies programming, as currently Jen Whitty and the FoodWise program provide the only Strong Bodies programming in Waukesha County. Extension can pay for volunteer leaders to get trained, and they provide weights and supplies. Keeping seniors strong and independent is important, as Wisconsin has the highest fall fatality rate in the nation, and Waukesha County is high in that regard as well. If you know of sites interested in Strong Bodies programming, or any great volunteers that would like to be trained, please contact us.

Sussex Outreach Services- Jennifer Waltz: Still experiencing a drop in numbers. Distributing outside, looking come back inside this summer. Currently focused on feeding kids this summer; providing a bonus bag of kid-friendly food for each child when they come to the pantry. Providing a summer lunch by coordinating with summer camp and summer school program. Operation backpack will be starting soon, distributing free school supplies beginning in August. Also providing \$35 to clients to get new shoes for kids; have migrated to an online format for this program.

Eras Senior Network- Shannon Fogle: Continuing to recruit volunteers to provide assistance to clients over the age of 60 and those with disabilities. Help people with grocery shopping, food pantry pickup, healthcare appointments, errands, and yard services. Friendly phone call program is continuing.

Addiction Resource Council- Jessica Brost: Looking to do some community outreach to homeless population in Waukesha. Would be nice to get some tips from others before hopping into it- please reach out if you have some information or ideas.

(Michael Egly shared: Housing Action Coalition has a group that has been meeting called HEART- homeless engagement and response team. Includes organizations such as the Hope Center, NAMI, county Mental health center, police and sheriff's departments)

Waukesha Free Clinic- Rosa Zibell: The clinic is open Monday-Friday 9-5 and some evenings for clinic. Have seen an increase in COVID-19 numbers after some recession. Now the cases are not so severe, and patients do not end up in the hospital. Offer PCR and rapid test for COVID. Hiring a community outreach nurse, as well as a bilingual full-time receptionist; if you know someone interested, please refer. Thank you for everyone sustaining the community with nutrition programs. Patients benefit from these services a lot.

Monroe Group (Senior House)- Irene Schuder & Shay Ealy: Shay is the new resident coordinator who just started here at the Senior House at the Waukesha location a couple of weeks ago. Senior house is thankful for the services provided by agencies around the table: Waukesha Food Pantry for food boxes, Extension for nutrition and cooking activities, ADRC for farmers market vouchers and senior taxis, Waukesha Free Clinic which is close enough for residents to walk to. Anyone else that wants to come to Senior House is welcome, or if you know of services for Milwaukee sites, please let them know.

Food Pantry of Waukesha County- Michael Egly:

The FOOD Pantry is hiring two positions: Bilingual Client Service Associate and Volunteer Coordinator

<https://www.jobsthatshelp.com/organization/Food%20Pantry%20of%20Waukesha%20County%2C%20Inc./>

The food pantry is working with the Backpack Coalition to distribute backpacks and school supplies for kids Pre-K thru senior year of high school. Have finished sign up for it, but if anyone has missed it, please let us know. Bria is FoodShare Outreach Coordinator, helping to outreach and educate people about FoodShare and assist with eligibility questions. If you have clients with questions, please let us know. The past few weeks, she has been reaching out to agencies to introduce herself and learn about needs at those agencies. Hunger Task Force is distributing Badger Boxes- an aggregate box of Wisconsin products- distributed 1x/month for folks who come to the pantry. Includes fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, meat, and dairy products.

Emailed update:

Community Smiles Dental- Elizabeth Sheehan: We had a full-time dentist leave us for a pediatric residency program and so we are currently looking for new dentists to join our paid staff - if anyone has a connection to a dentist, please feel free to give them my contact info! Being short-staffed dentist wise means we are booking out further for our patients as well. Both of our clinics are at capacity and are maintaining waitlists for new patients who call and are looking to establish us as their dental home. Agency referrals are welcome and prioritized - our agency referral form is accessible on our website for anyone in this group who may be looking to use it. We are hoping to grow in the next 2-5 years and are currently exploring partner options and growth opportunities in Milwaukee County.

WCNC Updates and Discussion:

Do we want to start meeting in person again? If so, we need to determine location and time.

- Timing: Many of those present preferred a morning meeting on Tuesdays at 9am, the way the meetings were previously.
- Extension could schedule the typical room at the Waukesha County Courthouse building again, if needed. Another option could be to do rotating locations at various agencies.
- The group consensus was that in-person meetings would be good moving forward, possibly with the option of joining online. Rotating sites would be great. Extension will look into the technology for providing a way to connect online at the courthouse. That may not be possible at most of our sites.
- Rosa offered to provide a tour of the new Waukesha Free Clinic for everyone; the meeting would need to be very early morning, or at the end of the day. Will look into holding the August or October meeting at Waukesha Free Clinic. 9am is when the clinic opens, so 7:45 AM would be the meeting time if we did in in the morning.
- Michael will send out a survey to capture feedback from those who could not attend today.

Next meeting: August 23, 2022: More info to come on time and location.

If you have any info, brochures, etc. to send to the WCNC email list, please share with Jill:

jill.herz@wisc.edu